INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT APPENDED SHEET International Filing No. PCT/EP03/12670

With regard to Point V

Substantiated statement according to Article 35(2) regarding novelty, inventive activity, and commercial applicability; Documents and declarations to support this statement

Prior art

DE 19840294A describes the cover device for an assembly clearance (for roof racks) in a cover rail of a motor vehicle roof.

Consists of an insertion part and lid.

The lid rests in the longitudinal direction of the rail; the lid has bearing journals on both ends. The bearing journals are supported in support shells in the insertion part, wherein the insertion also has springs which act together with cams on the bearing journals, in order to keep the lid open or closed.

Problem

The lid prevents access to the affixing devices in the channel. The assembly of the roof rack is made difficult by this.

Solution

The journals are affixed to a U-shaped frame. When open, the lid is behind the edge of the opening of the assembly clearance.

Thus, the object of Claim 1 fulfills the requirements of the PCT with regard to novelty and inventive activity.

The dependent claims also fulfill the requirements of the PCT regarding novelty and inventive activity.

All claims are commercially applicable.

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